

**COMMISSIONERS' MINUTES
KITITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON
AUDITORIUM/WEBEX
SPECIAL MEETING**

TUESDAY

2:00 P.M.

AUGUST 17, 2021

Board members present: Chairman Brett Wachsmith and Commissioner Cory Wright. Excused: Vice-Chairman Laura Osiadacz.

Others: Julie Kjorsvik, Clerk of the Board; David Welz, Ken Grannan, Josh Fredrickson, Engineer; Carly Brettmann, Communications Director; Mandy Buchholz, Administrative Supervisor; Mark Cook, Public Works Director; Arden Thomas, WRP Manager; Samantha Cox, Water Resources Specialist; and 8 members of the public.

Per Governor Inslee's Proclamation 20-28 et seq., the public was encouraged to join the meeting virtually or in person.

PUBLIC HEARING

REVISE GRAZING LEASES

AIRPORT

At 2:00 p.m. **CHAIRMAN WACHSMITH** opened a Public Hearing continued from August 3, 2021, to consider revised Grazing Leases at Bowers Field. He noted the record was open.

KEN GRANNAN, AIRPORT DIRECTOR reviewed the history and discussions that have taken place since the previous hearing on August 4, 2021. He said due to state of concern and confusion he would like the Board to continue the public hearing until September 7, 2021, to allow an emergency meeting with the Airport Advisory Committee.

THOSE PRESENT & TESTIFYING: STEVE WILLARD provided history on the Agricultural Leases and explained how he was on the former Airport Advisory Committee for over 25 years as well as had a grazing lease for almost 3 decades. He said he is very familiar with the landscape. He felt there's been very little continuity in the past, so he's happy to see an Airport Director now, but thought it will take a little seasoning on how to address agency comments and be able to strike a balance. **MILT JOHNSON, AIRPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE** said he had a background with grazing leases. He addressed rotational grazing, keep livestock feeding segregated, and incorporate riparian standards. He commended the Airport Director's work and recommended getting advice from the WSU Range Management or DNR Range Management. **MIKE LUNDEN** said he's looked around other airports and whether they've planned ahead or not. He's been happy to see the planning that's been done in the past couple of years. **TERESA SLOAN** provided information about grazing and large birds. She said as a Safety Officer at the University, students and herself have had to take evasive action at times. She does understand how Agriculture Leases bring in the most money at the airport but isn't

sure what the right answer is. **VICTOR STRAND** questioned the lease relating to calving and payment to the KRD. He said there were things that have not been addressed and they need to know where they stand with the Lease so they can either walk away or move forward with it.

COMMISSIONER WRIGHT moved to continue the Public Hearing to September 7, 2021, noting the record was open. **CHAIRMAN WACHSMITH** seconded. Motion carried 2-0.

PUBLIC HEARING

REVISE TITLE 19

AIRPORT

At approximately 2:22 p.m. **CHAIRMAN WACHSMITH** opened the Public Hearing continued from August 3, 2021, to consider revising Title 19 of Kittitas County Code Amending Minimum Standards, Rules and Regulations and Design Standards. He noted the record was open.

KEN GRANNAN, AIRPORT DIRECTOR explained there needed to be a proposed Ordinance drafted instead of a Resolution, when changing County Code. He recommended continuing the Public Hearing to October 19, 2021, at 2:00 p.m. He said they've provided information to the Airport Advisory Committee and has continued to receive other concerns regarding the legality of language and discrepancies. He requested permission for the Airport to seek either 3rd party legal advice either through a consultant with Prosecutor Zempel's and ask the Board to seek that permission to create solid foundation with future leases.

COMMISSIONER WRIGHT moved to remand the amendments relating to Minimum Standards, Rules and Regulations and Design Standards back to Staff. **CHAIRMAN WACHSMITH** seconded. Motion carried 2-0.

PUBLIC HEARING

MICHELETTO ROAD

PUBLIC WORKS

At approximately 2:25 p.m. **CHAIRMAN WACHSMITH** opened a Public Hearing to consider the establishment of Micheletto Road onto the Public Road Network.

JOSH FREDRICKSON, ENGINEER reviewed a Staff Report and provided the background of the request, discussion, and financial impacts to establish a County right-of-way for Micheletto Road, which is approximately 0.245 miles.

THERE BEING NO ONE REQUESTING TO TESTIFY, THE PUBLIC PORTION OF THE HEARING WAS CLOSED.

RESOLUTION 2021-131

MICHELETTO ROAD

PUBLIC WORKS

COMMISSIONER WRIGHT moved to approve Resolution No. 2021-131, Establishing County Right-of-Way for Micheletto Road, Approximately

0.234 miles, and to direct the Engineer to amend the County Road Log and notice appropriate State agencies of the road establishment.

CHAIRMAN WACHSMITH seconded. Motion carried 2-0.

PUBLIC HEARING

FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION

PUBLIC WORKS

At 2:29 p.m. **CHAIRMAN WACHSMITH** opened a Public Hearing to consider Amending Kittitas County Code Chapter 14.08 - Flood Damage Prevention.

ARDEN THOMAS, WRP MANAGER reviewed a Staff Report and said the National Flood Insurance Program benefits County residents by enabling them with homes at flood risk, to receive a federally backed mortgage and receive disaster assistance. The program participation also makes federal flood insurance available in Kittitas County, however we must have a floodplain management Ordinance that meets the minimum federal and state criteria and must adopt and utilize floodplain hazard maps provided by FEMA. She answered questions from the Board.

THOSE PRESENT & TESTIFYING: **JAMES RIVARD** appreciated the analysis on flood mapping and felt it was a good step but thought there were still infrastructure improvements to be done near the west interchange. Free up some land for development. **THERE BEING NO OTHERS REQUESTING TO TESTIFY, THE PUBLIC PORTION OF THE HEARING WAS CLOSED.**

MARK COOK, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR provided information for the Board and noted in this case he was also the Flood Control District Administrator per State law instead of the County Engineer.

ORDINANCE 2021-010

AMEND COUNTY CODE 14.08

PUBLIC WORKS

COMMISSIONER WRIGHT moved to approve Ordinance No. 2021-010, Amending County Code Chapter 14.08, and to amend Section 14.08.140 amend the language to include "whenever a watercourse is to be altered or relocated, the Floodplain Administrator shall" and Section 14.08.150, amend the language to read "the Floodplain Administrator shall make interpretations where needed, etc.".

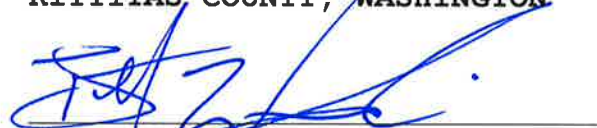
CHAIRMAN Wachsmith seconded. Motion carried 2-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:59 p.m.

CLERK OF THE BOARD


Julie Kjorsvik

**KITTITAS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**


Brett Wachsmith, Chairman